



# CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA LTD.

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CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA LTD.

F R O M

THE FEBRUARY 1984 MEETING

O F

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### DIRECTORS' SEMINAR - MARCH 1984

All available places in the seminar have been booked. The names of late applicants will be listed and, subject to sufficient numbers expressing interest, the March 1984 seminar will be repeated.

### DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVES STUDY TOUR - U.S.A.

The Federation has been able to arrange for attendance by a selected group of Australian Co-operators at the American Co-operatives Summer Institute to be held on the campus of Montana State University on July 31, Aug. 1 and 2 1984.

About 2,000 leading American Co-operators from all aspects of Co-operative activity meet each year on a different University campus to learn, establish better personal inter Co-operative relationships and develop programmes of Co-operative advancement.

A circular inviting expressions of interest in this tour is attached.

## 1984 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Please make a diary note.

The date for this important annual event is Tuesday, 14th August 1984 and the venue is Olympic Park as for the 1983 Conference. Details of programme etc. will be announced in due course.

## LEGISLATION

### Share Values and Asset Backing

Two years ago the Federation made submissions to the Victorian Government for amendment of the Co-operation Act to enable bonus shares to be issued to members from a re-valuation of assets. It is understood the proposal is agreed in principal by the Minister's Legislative Review Committee.

Following discussion on this matter at the February Board meeting, the Federation's Legislative Committee was directed to reconvene, consider and submit recommendations on

Effects of inflation on asset values and Co-operative share values;

relationship of new and old members of older established Co-operatives and equity in the General Reserves.

The recommendations are to cover Co-operative Companies and Co-operative Societies.

The Legislative Committee would welcome input from any member Co-operative to enable an effective study to be made and worthwhile recommendations to be developed.

## S E R V I C E S

### BULK FUEL PURCHASES

The Committee appointed to develop this proposal, having made approaches to all major oil company distributors, is currently studying proposals of one oil company and possible economic benefits for members from this proposal.

### CENTRAL BANKING

Delays in progress of this proposal have been caused by the major Bank with which the Federation has been negotiating having to make internal policy decisions on development of an appropriate system to meet Federation needs. A decision has now been taken by the Bank to implement systems which will enable it to offer to the Federation automatic funds transfer facilities to enable our proposed centralised banking operation to be established.

Negotiations are continuing.

### GROUP INSURANCE

A further service considered to be of benefit to members is a Co-operative development of a group insurance package deal.

To enable the potential viability of such a scheme to be assessed we need to have a knowledge of the business that can be offered to insurance brokers and/or companies to obtain the most competitive deal.

An insurance survey questionnaire is attached to which we would welcome your attention, completion and return. All information supplied will be regarded as confidential and any figures used will be in totals obtained, unrelated to any individual Co-operative.

## CO-OPERATIVES AND GOVERNMENT

Federation nominees, Ted Long and Bill Rawlinson, continue as members of the Co-operative Societies Advisory Council established under the Co-operation Act 1981. The next meeting

of this Council is scheduled for 16th February 1984.

The Minister administering the Co-operation Act in consultation with the Minister for Employment and Training has now established a Ministerial Advisory Committee on Co-operation to assist in development of Government Policy on Co-operation.

The Government is particularly concerned to ensure that the very considerable energies being developed within the co-operative movement are properly co-ordinated and that the Government and the movement have a vehicle through which they can work together. It is hoped that the Committee will be an example of co-operation at its best.

Bill Rawlinson has been appointed to this Committee and would welcome any input to its deliberations from member Co-operatives.

#### CO-OPERATIVE REGISTRY

In December we reported on the creation of four new senior appointments in the Registry of Co-operative Societies.

Appointed as Deputy Registrar, General Co-operatives (i.e. Co-operatives other than Housing and Credit) is

MS. MAUREEN HOPPER, B.Bus., Dip.Ed., M.B.A., A.A.S.A.(Snr.)

The Registry has now been located altogether on the 21st Floor of Myer House, 250 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

#### CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

The next meeting of the Council of the national body has been called for 23rd February 1984 in Sydney. Victorian Federation Director Brian Macintosh will be attending.

State Federation Executive Officers will also be meeting at the same time and our Executive Officer, Bill Rawlinson, will be attending that session.

#### OVERSEAS CO-OPERATORS TO VISIT VICTORIA

We have been asked to arrange a programme of visits to, and learning about, Co-operatives in Victoria for a group of about 20 Malaysian officials of Co-operative Societies in April 1984. We will be seeking assistance direct with some Co-operatives when more specific details are known.